



## Birthdays

Jeanne Watkins  
December 1st

Truman Burgess  
December 6th

Renea Sutcliffe  
December 15th

## Anniversaries

Robert and Rosemarie Bullock  
December 9th

Sir Paul Howard  
December 10th



## The Prez Box - December 2022



Hi everybody, it's the last Prez Box of the year. Most of the activity these days are for our Annual Awards banquet. We have a larger group this year than last year. We have 40 people planning to attend this year. That's pretty good considering we are missing 3 of our regular attendees. It's a positive outlook for the future of the Orcutt Mineral Society!

We have 5 new members that are expressing an interest in getting involved. We have already put one to work. Joey Nichols will be taking over the field trips for me. Please, show her your support by joining as many field trips you can physically handle.

We will not have Sylvia for our gift exchange this year due to illness. Luckily, Joey has consented to fill in for her. I'm hoping Wayne and I have passed on enough of Sylvia's expertise to keep her head above water. She may not have everything down yet, but she will do a great job and make Sylvia proud! We will greatly miss Sylvia and Don this year! Hopefully they will be able to return next year.

We will also be missing Margaret Henson who is doing her best to take care of her brother in Ventura after his heart surgery. Wouldn't you know, she and her brother caught Covid making her job more difficult. To say the least, she is not having much fun!

Our December General Meeting will be the Awards Banquet on Saturday Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> 12:00 -3:00 PM at Madonna

## December 2022

**December 5** at 7:00 pm - Board Meeting in Wes Lingerfelt's garden.

**December 10** - OMS Annual Meeting at the Madonna Inn in the Round Room from noon to 3:00 pm.

**Please bring canned goods and money for the abused children's fund.**

## January 2023

**January 2** at 7:00 pm - Board Meeting in Wes Lingerfelt's garden.

**January 10** at 7:00 pm - OMS General Meeting at the Oasis Senior Center in Orcutt.

**January 14** at 8:00am - Highway cleanup at the southwest corner of highway



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Inn's Round Room. We are permitted to arrive any time after 10:30 AM for set up. If anyone would like to help with that, we could use a couple of hands to help move some tables and a few other things. Just check with Wayne or I if you want to help out. If you want to participate in the gift exchange, be sure to bring a gift valued around \$10 and check in with Joey when you arrive. Also, if you have any canned goods to donate to the Salvation Army, bring those along as well. If you happen to see Wes in the parking lot, you can give him your donation, that way no one will have to carry them up or down the staircase. For the others, we will have a location for them upstairs. Other than that, just bring along your Christmas cheer and have a good time! Jan will have her can out collecting for the Abused Children's Christmas Donation. I look forward to seeing you all there!

The Board made its first executive decision for 2023 at our meeting on November 7th. The vote was unanimous, **we will** have a **2023 Rock and Gem Show!** Renea needs the extra time for ensuring food vendor and muscles. She was not given enough advance notice to do all that needed doing. We wanted to do better for her in 2023 so we decided early.

That's it for this year, I look forward to seeing you all for another great year next year!

Happy Holidays and have a happy, SAFE New Year!

## December Birthstone - Take Your Pick

December seems to have the more birthstones than any other month. Turquoise, blue topaz, tanzanite, zircon, and lapis are all listed as December birthstones. Turquoise and lapis are considered traditional stones while tanzanite, blue topaz, and zircon are all considered modern stones. The general color of "winter" blue seems to run throughout the five different stones.

Tanzanite is a relatively new stone to the jewelry market. The blue stone was discovered in Tanzania in 1967. Originally the tanzanite was called blue zoisite. However, that sounded too much like the word suicide so it was renamed.

## Orcutt Mineral Society Board Meeting - November 7, 2022

**Called to Order:** 7:07 pm by Wayne Mills

**Members Present:** Sally Griffith, Tara Machin, Wayne Mills, Jeanne Brown, Renea Sutcliffe, Jan Ferguson, Betty Campbell. Guest: Wes Lingerfelt

**Previous Minutes:** No corrections

**Treasurer's Report:** Jeannie presented the 3rd quarter report, the show report and a three year comparison of the previous shows. We made a profit on the show and we were able to pay back the losses from the COVID years so good news. Cuesta College is the recipient of our scholarship. Jeannie got an application from our bank for a VISA card. It might help with paying expenses like deposits and postage. The board agreed that she could fill out the application.

Correspondence: Santa Lucia Rockhound's newsletter, Salvation Army request for money, and a returned unaddressed unstamped OMS bulletin.

### Committee Reports:

1. **Bulletin-** No corrections
2. **CFMS/AFMS-** Renea is going up to the CFMS meeting on November 11th and 12th. She will be picking up packets for other clubs locally as well as our packet.
3. **Membership-** Wayne has badges / name tags ready for our new members. They will be presented at our General meeting on November 22, 2022.
4. **Field Trip-** Wayne spent Thursday, November 3, 2022 showing our new field trip leader a few north county collecting spots. They found some rocks and had a great time.
5. **Adopt-a-Highway-** Our next and last highway cleanup of 2022 is November

12, 2022 at 8:00 am at the southwest corner of highway 101 and 166.

6. **Annual Awards Banquet-** Jeanne said that we have the 25 necessary bodies needed to dine at Madonna. Sally and Wayne are calling members who have not responded to make sure that no one is left out. It is unclear if Sylvia will be able to run the gift exchange this year so Joey has graciously offered to cover for her. The gift exchange rules have been changed to only 2 times a gift can be stolen. We don't want to rush people, but we still want to have fun. Remember that the gift is \$10 or more if you want to participate. The gift should be a rock or a rock related item. Reminder, bring canned goods or a donation for Salvation Army to the annual meeting.
  7. **Education-** No report
  8. **Library-** No report
  9. **Sunshine-** Sylvia is recovering well and should be back at home by November 11, 2022. Bill Brown is doing well, but Margaret fell ill. There will be a celebration of life for long time member Bill DePew who died on October 22, 2022. Wes and Ralph will attend the services on November 23, 2022. Please contact Wes Lingerfelt for more information.
  10. **Scholarship-** Jeanne has received all the paperwork necessary to determine the money amount of our 2022 donation to the scholarship fund. She has chosen to donate to Cuesta College.
- Show (2022):** As of the finalized Scholarship information the book has closed on the 2022 show. We'll be back with 2023 show info. come

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January, February 2023. Hoping for August 3,4,5 2023. We will need to confirm the date from the High School.

**Old Business:** It looks like Sylvia will not be handling refreshments next year so we need to find someone new to fill that position. Sally will check with Sharon Pearson at the General Meeting on November 22. Wayne said we still need to offer board/officer positions at the November general meeting so if anyone knows of anyone interested in any of the duties, please speak up at the meeting. We are looking for someone to take over the secretary duties and we need one board member.

**New Business:** As a response to Wes's suggestion, a sign will be posted at Oasis stating date change for November General

Meeting for anyone who has not heard the news yet and to catch any possible visitors that had no way of knowing. Tara put these signs up on the afternoon of November 8. As previously mentioned, we will change one of the rules for our gift exchange. Gifts will be only be able to be stolen 2 times instead of 3 times this year. We'll see how that works.

**Program:** Wes Lingerfelt will recap our August 2022 field trip to the SB Museum of Natural History's Exhibit, RARE EARTH. The program includes many photos taken on the trip.

**Display:** Minerals in their matrices or anything you would like to show off

Adjourned at 8:15 pm

Respectfully submitted by Tara Machin, OMS Secretary

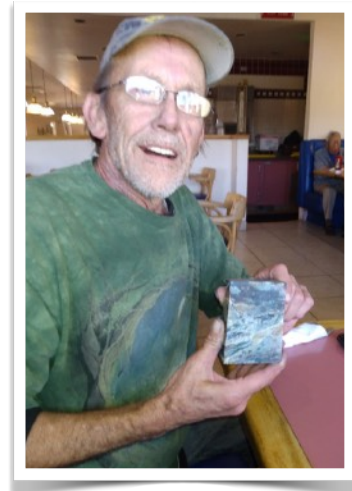
## November Highway clean-up

By Wayne Mills

The OMS completed the last of our 6 yearly highway clean-ups on a cold Saturday morning (November 12). The temperature was 49 degrees when the folks arrived at the lot. Six "regulars" showed-up for the task. Many thanks to Wes and Marty Lingerfelt, Geary Sheffer, and Steve and Lisa Siemsen for their efforts. The parking lot at the SE corner of Highways 101 and 166 wasn't too dirty, but sections two and three had a lot of trash.

Wes reported that he found about 3 dozen business cards strewn in his area, and Marty found a couple dozen of unopened condoms and a pregnancy test kit! Steve and Lisa mentioned that they had seen a food vendor at our meeting location over the past few days, and when we arrived, we found the "No Vendors" sign that had been put-up by Caltrans knocked over and was lying in a ditch behind the parking lot.

Clean-up of sections 1 and 4 went pretty well, so the Siemsen, Gary and Wayne were done about 9:45, and left shortly thereafter for our snacks at Santa Maria's Country Kitchen. Wes brought the incentive prize, our waitress, Shelly, drew the winner, and Marty was the winner. The prize was a neat slab of Plasma Agate from Clear Creek in San Benito County. We agreed that the agate looked like a "Stormy Morning Along the Coast".



# Photos from the General Meeting



Wayne with new members, Nancy Knapp and Joe Goetz.

## Orcutt Mineral Society General Meeting - November 22, 2022

**Called to Order:** 7:18 pm by Sally Griffith

Invocation by Debbie Hood

Pledge of Allegiance by Debbie Hood

**Members Present:** 22 Members / 4 guests

**Previous Minutes from the Board meeting:**

No corrections

**Treasurer's Report:** Please see the notes from the board meeting

**Committee Reports:**

1. **Bulletin-** No corrections
2. **CFMS/AFMS-** Renea gave a summation of her November CFMS meeting. No Camp Zzyzx in the future. Camp Paradise is the camp that CFMS is pushing and spreading the word about. There was a presentation about keeping the land access. The BLM wants to shut down many of the places that rock hounders camp and search for rocks. Renea has the list if you would like more information. There are some small private areas that we could rockhound in the future and CFMS is working with those people to allow rock hunting clubs. Renea brought copies of the December CFMS newsletter. Renea said that there were 2 new rockhound clubs out of Bakersfield. Please look at the CFMS and the AFMS websites for more information.
3. **Membership-** Wayne gave out badges / name tags for our new members. We had 6 new members to welcome (but only 2 were at the meeting). New members, please read the standing rules and bi-laws on the website. We will try to welcome the other 4 at the annual meeting in December.
4. **Field Trip-** Please see the notes from the board meeting
5. **Adopt-a-Highway-** Please see the notes from the board meeting. Next clean-up

will be January 14th, 2023 at 8:00 am.

Please meet at the southwest corner of highway 101 and 166.

6. **Annual Awards Banquet-** Please see the notes from the board meeting. The general meeting is the last day to place your order for the Madonna Inn.
7. **Education-** Wayne took his rock specimens to the Paso Robles rock club for their monthly meeting.
8. **Library-** No report
9. **Sunshine-** Please see the notes from the board meeting
10. **Scholarship-** Please see the notes from the board meeting.

**Show:** Jeanne said that she talked to Nipomo High School and they are doing a major HVAC replacement project next year and they don't yet have a timeline for the work. We are hoping that we can still hold our show in Nipomo on the first weekend of August, but the school district will help us set up at an alternative site if needed. Tentative dates for the Annual Rock show are August 4, 5, and 6, 2023.

**Old Business:** The board has been chosen. It will remain the same as 2022 with the addition of Wes Lingerfelt to the board. No one wanted to run for any of the officers or the board.

**New Business:** Please see the notes from the board meeting. The website is currently down and Wes has been working to correct it.

**Program:** Wes Lingerfelt recapped our August 2022 field trip to the SB Museum of Natural History's Exhibit, RARE EARTH. The program included many photos taken on the trip.

**Display:** Minerals in their matrices

Adjourned at 8:35 pm

Respectfully submitted by Tara Machin, OMS Secretary

## Upcoming Rock and Mineral Shows

**December** - No listings

**January 21-22, 2023** - Exeter, CA

Tule Gem and Mineral Society

Contact: (559) 799-6034, margaretbu03@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.tulegem.com>

More information can be found on the CFMS website at [cfmsinc.org](http://cfmsinc.org)

## CFMS / AFMS News - November and December 2022

Notes by Wayne Mills SLR CFMS Rep

**CFMS Website** - [cfmsinc.org](http://cfmsinc.org)

CFMS November Highlights

**President's Box-** Don Barton notes that the CFMS Annual Business Meeting takes place November 11-13th at the Visalia Wyndam Hotel. Schedules and details are in the newsletter.

CFMS is highlighting its committees to show how CFMS helps or can help its member societies.

The committee highlighted was the earth sciences seminars. Operating rules are included in the November bulletin. Thirty five more CFMS committees will be highlighted in 2023.

**Juniors-** Jim Brace-Thompson reports that one-third of CFMS Clubs have responded to Jim's question about the status of their Juniors Programs. Many thanks to those clubs.

**Rockhound of the Year-** Nominations and qualifications were presented for members of the Vista Gem & Mineral Society, Vallejo Gem & Mineral Society, San Joaquin Valley Gem & Mineral Society, Ventura Gem and Mineral Society, and Long Beach Gem & Mineral Society.

**CFMS is no longer collecting stamps for Easter Seals-** The latter organization has dropped the program. CFMS has been contributing since about 1980.

**CFMS Officers for 2023-** (Proposed slate)

**President-** Kimberly Fiala

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President-** Bob Rush

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President-** Heidi Hall

**Secretary-** Frank Van Hecke

**Treasurer-** Diane Cook (current Treasurer)

**All-American Club-** 2022 winners are: First Place (Gold) is the Ventura Gem and Mineral Society (101 points average), Honorable Mention is the Vallejo Gem and Mineral Society (49 points average).

**2023 Website Contest-** Webmasters are notified to begin preparing for the 2023 Contest. Details

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forthcoming. Rules on AFMS Website. Submit questions to Merryan Oneill at [mvoneill@comcast.net](mailto:mvoneill@comcast.net)

**Bulletin Aid-** Mark Nelson presented an article on Award winning Bulletins.

**Safety-** Ellery Borow has an interesting article about "The Cost of Being Safe" regarding safety kits for various emergencies at home and on the road.

### CFMS December Highlights

**President's Box-** This was Don Barton last message as CFMS President. CFMS is highlighting its committees to show how CFMS helps or can help its member societies. One Committee is Juniors Activities.

**Insurance-** Due to rising cost of insurance, rates have been increased by \$1 per member. Insurance rates are now \$9 per member, as of December 31, 2022. Insurance is due by March.

**Juniors-** Jim Brace-Thompson noted that there will be several awards available for Juniors in 2023. These include the Junior Achievement Award, Show Chair's Award at Annual CFMS Show and Convention, Bulletin Contest Awards, and Junior Rockhound of the Year. For Details, see CFMS Bulletin for November. Jim has an article summarizing the results of his questionnaire on Post-Pandemic Junior Activities, and will publish articles on "Best Practices" in 2023 bulletins.

**Cab Cases-** Cases for all three areas, north, south and Central, were all displayed at the 2022 Show at Lancaster. Be aware that these cases are available for display at your show.

**Field Trips-** CFMS has committees for field trips north and south. Field trips north recently took a trip to Hawthorne and Mina Nevada for minerals and petrified wood. 12 members from the Reno and Roseville Clubs attended.

**CFMS Endowment Fund-** This is the backbone of funding for CFMS. Donations can be made in honor of, in memory of, or for any other reason. Donations are tax deductible, and should be made out to: Pat La Rue, P.O. Box 1657, Rialto, CA 92377-1657.

**Visual Programs-** This is an under-used feature of CCFMS. Many programs are available. Please see the list on CFMS website. Shipping on the programs is free.

**Rules Committee-** The rules committee is a three-person committee that works on a uniform set of rules for judging competitive cases at CFMS Shows. Colleen McGann will take over the lead from Pat La Rue in 2023.

**AFMS Bulletin Awards-** For CFMS, The Ventura and Oxnard Clubs took most of the awards. Amy Phillips of the Santa Lucia Club got 6<sup>th</sup> place for large bulletins, and Ted Gray of the Santa Lucia Club got 2<sup>nd</sup> place in adult articles for "Fossil Hunting".

**2023 CFMS Show-** Not being able to find a club to sponsor the 2023 CFMS show, CFMS has decided to have a no-host show in Lodi, CA on June 23-25, 2023. A no-host show means that CFMS will need to solicit help from folks in the local area to make the show a success.

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**AFMS Website-** [amfed.org](http://amfed.org)

There was no AFMS newsletter posted for November or December as of this newsletter printing.



<b>Orcutt Mineral Society Officers</b>		
President	Sally Griffith	(805) 928-6848
Immediate Past President	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
Secretary	Tara Machin Jeannine Todd	(805) 863-5992
Treasurer	Jeanne L. Watkins	(805) 481-1811
<b>Orcutt Mineral Society Board Members</b>		
	Jan Ferguson	(805) 474-9977
	Betty Campbell	(805) 929-5344
	Renea Sutcliffe	(805) 929-2783
	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
<b>CFMS Federation Director</b>		
	Renea Sutcliffe	(805) 929-2783
<b>OMS Membership</b>		
Membership	Wayne Mills	(805) 481-3495
Membership is \$24.00 for Individual, \$34.00 per couple, \$5.00 Each Additional Family Member, \$5 for Juniors under age of 18. One time initiation fee for new members is \$10.00.		
<b>OMS Online Contacts</b>		
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**Santa Maria, CA 93456-0106**

*ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED*

The ORE-CUTTS (named after William Orcutt) was first published in 1966. Member Helen Azevedo was the first editor. The Orcutt Mineral Society was founded in 1958, and was also named after Orcutt who was a geologist and civil engineer who worked in the Santa Maria Valley as a District Manager for Union Oil Company in 1888. In 1889, William Orcutt discovered the mineral and fossil wealth of the La Brea Tar Pits on the property of Captain Alan Hancock in Los Angeles. The La Brea Tar Pits are one of the most significant fossil finds in paleontological history.

OMS is a non-profit organization dedicated to stimulating an interest in the earth sciences. The club offers educational programs, field trips, scholarships, and other opportunities for families and individuals to pursue an interest in the collecting and treatment of lapidary materials, fossils, gems, minerals, and other facets of the Earth Sciences. In addition, another goal of this Society is to promote good fellowship and proper ethics in pursuit of the Society's endeavors. Operating Rules have been set forth to guide the officers and members of the Society in accomplishing these aims. Affiliations of the OMS include American Federation of Mineral Societies, and California Federation of Mineral Societies.

